

Art Unit: 1652

The restriction requirement was discussed. Applicants were advised that new sequences (present and future), including new variables at the variable positions, are and will be withdrawn as being drawn to non-elected subject matter. Applicants were advised that for the elected amino acids at specific positions in the elected invention, the claims may encompass chemical derivatives that are supported by the specification and that are not different naturally occurring amino acids. Regarding the prior art, Applicants were advised that the claims must be amended around the art to overcome the rejection. The rejection may be addressed by amending the "comprising" language to "consisting of" language. Applicants proposed structural claim limitations reciting disulfide bonds. Applicants were advised that such claims would be evaluated upon presentation of specific claims in written form. Rejoinder of method claims was discussed. Applicants were advised that the elected composition claims must first be allowable, that the method claims should be amended to conform with U.S. patent practice (e.g., no use claims) and that the claims must be supported and defined by the specification with respect to 112, first and second paragraphs.